



Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sir Knights,

Many of you have no doubt heard the lessons based on the eagle and the crow before, but I felt it worthy enough to share as part of this month's message. So, if part of this is old to you, please forgive me.

The only bird that will usually dare to attack an eagle is the crow. In fact, a crow will land on an eagle's back, in flight, and will peck the neck or back of the eagle. What does the eagle do? Well, what it does not do is get stressed out or go into fits and try to fight the crow. In fact, it really does not waste time or energy on the crow. Instead, the eagle will open its wings and begin to fly higher and higher until the crow drops off.

Flying higher works for the eagle, because eagles can fly up to heights of 10,000 to 15,000 feet. While the crow can only fly to heights of 3,000 to 4,000 feet. So, the higher the eagle climbs, the harder it is for the crow to breath, and it eventually it has to drop off and go down to a lower altitude in order to breath. The eagle knows that, instead of fighting, it can use its advantage of altitude to succeed against the nagging crow.

The same is true for us. I'm sure that you all have experience in life with things that surprising you and interfere with your plans, family, and many other things. It can become all too easy for these things to take away our energy and stop us from being focused on what we should be doing, or on what God has called us to do. Instead of wasting our time fighting everything, we should follow the example of the eagle: Soar higher and get closer to God. The issues of life become much easier to deal with when we trust the love, grace, power and presence of God in our lives.

Isaiah 40:31 tells us, "...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint."

Our goal as we go forward should be to fly higher, getting closer to God, so we can fly above our circumstances and be the Sir Knights that God has called us to be. We accomplish this by being active in our study of God's Word. Through our quiet time spent alone with our Creator. Through fellowship with other believers. And through our efforts with our fellow Sir Knights as we serve together.

Summer comes to an end this month. But our chivalric year is not even halfway finished. Still, many of us are feeling tired after this past summer. And there are a lot of things going on in the world around us that can obscure our focus and sap our strength. But let us be renewed by our faith. Let us lift each other up with our prayers and actions. And together, following God's lead, we will soar like eagles.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate